DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES 744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814



November 15, 19194

ALL-COUNTY LETTER NO. 94-96

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS
ALL COUNTY GAIN COORDINATORS
ALL ADOLESCENT FAMILY LIFE PROGRAM
DIRECTORS

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SUBJECT: CAL-LEARN CASE MANAGEMENT, EDUCATION AND SUPPORTIVE

SERVICES QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

REFERENCE: ALL-COUNTY LETTER NO. 94-16

This is a follow-up to the regional training on the Cal-Learn Program provided by the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) earlier this year and to questions that have arisen on the State's regulations that implemented the Cal-Learn Program. The regulations became effective on April 1, 1994.

This letter confirms many of the answers provided in the training sessions. It also includes questions received by CDSS and the California Departments of Health Services and Education. Because of the volume of questions, we are developing additional responses by topic in the areas of program eligibility, participation requirements, and notices of action and forms. These reponses will be provided as quickly as possible.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact your county's Cal-Learn Program Analyst at (916) 654-1424.

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Enclosure

c: CWDA

CDHS

CAL-LEARN PROGRAM QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

CAL-LEARN CASE MANAGEMENT--MANUAL OF POLICIES AND PROCEDURES (MPP) 42-766

- 1. O. HOW WILL NONCUSTODIAL PARENTS BE SERVED?
 - A. Noncustodial parents are not eligible for participation in the Cal-Learn Program. Cal-Learn case management services include facilitating an ongoing relationship between the Cal-Learn teen, the noncustodial parent and the infant when it is in the best interest of the teen and infant.
- 2. Q. WILL PROVISIONS BE DEVELOPED TO ALLOW CASE MANAGERS TO WORK WITH PARENTS OF CAL-LEARN TEENS?
 - A. Yes. Cal-Learn case managers will look for opportunities to strengthen the relationship between teens and their parents.
- 3. Q. WILL THE CASE PLAN ADDRESS ISSUES REGARDING GANGS? FOR EXAMPLE, THE TEEN PARENT MUST CROSS INTO A GANG TERRITORY ON THE WAY TO AND FROM SCHOOL OR TO THE CHILD CARE PROVIDER AND IS AFRAID OF BEING HURT.
 - A. It is the responsibility of the Cal-Learn case manager to assess the health and safety of the teen parent and child which includes their living environment and community. The case manager will assist the teen parent in identifying needs and problems to be addressed in the teen's service plan and assist solving the problem. This would include gang issues. The program will not require its participants to be put into threatening situations.
- 4. Q. WILL THE CASE MANAGER PROVIDE CAL-LEARN ORIENTATION?
 - A. The determination as to who will provide orientation will be decided by the county. Counties that are contracting for case management services have the option to include this required activity in the contract or the county may choose to directly provide the Cal-Learn orientation.
- 5. Q. WILL AFLP CHANGE AS CAL-LEARN IS IMPLEMENTED?
 - A. AFLP case management will remain the same in its application to the Cal-Learn Program. The implementation of the Cal-Learn program will dramatically expand the number of teens receiving case management based on AFLP Standards. The expansion will be administered by county welfare departments under the supervision of this department.

- 6. Q. DOES THE AFLP CASELOAD STANDARD OF ONE TO 40 REMAIN THE SAME UNDER CAL-LEARN?
 - A. The maximum allowable caseload for AFLP is not to exceed one case manager to 40 teens. This ratio will remain the same for the Cal-Learn Program.
- 7. Q. AFLP STANDARDS SEEM TO INDICATE COUNTIES MUST HAVE A RELEASE OF INFORMATION FORM FROM THE TEEN. CAN CASE MANAGERS MAKE THIS A REQUIREMENT FOR CAL-LEARN TEEN PARENTS? IS THIS SOMETHING THE COUNTIES COULD DO ADMINISTRATIVELY?
 - A. All county welfare departments (CWD) have a form that is used to obtain confidential information about a client that can be used by a Cal-Learn contracted case manager. This form may be used by Cal-Learn case managers when requesting confidential information about a teen parent. The request must be for specific information on a certain subject. (Refer to MPP 19-000 regarding confidentiality.)
- 8. Q. WHAT IS THE CASE MANAGER'S RESPONSIBILITY REGARDING FALSIFIED REPORT CARDS?
 - A falsified report card constitutes a fraudulent action and is an intentional program violation. A Cal-Learn case manager would follow the policies and procedures each county has established for dealing with a fraudulent action. In addition, if the altered report card resulted in a teen being given a bonus, the Cal-Learn case manager would initiate the overpayment collection process with the county. The Cal-Learn case manager would also inform the county when: (1) a sanction is to be imposed if the original report card establishes that the teen is subject to a sanction for not making adequate progress; and/or (2) child care is to be reduced or discontinued if the original report card establishes that the teen was not (Refer to MPP 20-000 regarding fraud, attending school. MPP 44-350 for overpayments and MPP 42-769 for sanctions.)
- 9. Q. ARE AFLP PROVIDERS REQUIRED TO CONTRACT WITH A COUNTY TO PROVIDE CASE MANAGEMENT SERVICES FOR THE CAL-LEARN PROGRAM?
 - A. No. If an AFLP provider decides not to contract with a county to provide Cal-Learn case management services, the county may contract with another organization or provide the services itself as long as the case management service meets the standards of AFLP.

- 10. Q. IF THE TEEN IS EXEMPT BECAUSE HE/SHE IS EXPELLED, WHAT IS THE ROLE OF THE CASE MANAGER IN GETTING THE TEEN IN AN EDUCATIONAL COMPONENT?
 - A. If the teen is expelled from school, the case manager should assist the teen parent in finding an alternative educational program. If the case manager and teen cannot find an alternative educational program and no other school will allow the teen to attend, the teen will be exempt from participation in the Cal-Learn Program. When a teen is exempt from Cal-Learn, the teen will no longer receive case management or supportive services and will no longer be registered in the GAIN Program.

EDUCATION--MPP 42-763.4 AND .7; 42-766.3 AND .6

- 1. Q. WILL THE SCHOOLS IN CALIFORNIA HAVE THE CAPACITY TO SERVE THE NUMBER OF TEEN PARENTS WHO HAVE DROPPED OUT OF SCHOOL AND ARE IDENTIFIED THROUGH THE CAL-LEARN PROGRAM?
 - A. As specified under California Education Code (EC)
 Section 48200, California's compulsory attendance laws
 require all children from 6 to 18 years to attend school
 until they graduate from high school or its equivalent.
 Schools must make the necessary arrangements to
 accommodate all students.
- 2. Q. WHAT HAPPENS WHEN A TEEN PARENT HAS GRADUATED FROM HIGH SCHOOL IN ANOTHER COUNTRY (I.E., MEXICO) OR HAS AN EQUIVALENT DEGREE FROM ANOTHER STATE?
 - A. Admission offices of the Local Educational Agencies are able to assess the educational attainment of students from other countries. A high school diploma earned in another state is equivalent to one earned in California.
- 3. Q. CAN THE TEEN BE REQUIRED TO GO TO INDEPENDENT STUDY?
 - A. No. A teen cannot be "required" to go to independent study. Enrollment in independent study must be voluntary. The choice must be made by the student, parent or guardian, and teachers involved. It cannot be an administrative decision of last resort arbitrarily made by a case manager or the school [refer to EC Section 51747(c)(7)].

The "independent study" program is an optional educational alternative available to students from kindergarten through high school that is meant to respond to the student's specific educational needs. A contractual agreement is drawn among the teacher as the general instructional supervisor, the student and, if a

minor, his or her parent (head of the AU) and any other persons who may be directly involved in the student's learning program. The "independent study contract" requires a minimum of 20 hours of independent study work and a weekly meetings between the student and the teacher.

- 4. Q. WHO ENSURES THAT THE TEEN PARENT, WHO IS EXEMPT FROM CAL-LEARN, CONTINUES TO GO TO SCHOOL?
 - A. Local educational agencies have responsibility for the follow-up and resolution of school attendance issues.
- 5. Q. IF A TEEN IS IN A "HOME STUDY" OR INDEPENDENT STUDY
 PROGRAM, DOES THE TEEN HAVE TO BE IN 10 HOURS PER WEEK OF
 ACTUAL CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION?
 - A. In the "home" and "hospital instruction" programs, temporarily disabled students are entitled to individual instruction in their homes or in hospitals. A "temporary disability" is defined as a physical, mental or emotional disability incurred while a student is enrolled in regular classes or in an alternative education program, and after which the student can reasonably be expected to return to regular classes without special intervention. As specified under EC Section 48206.3, there is no maximum or minimum time limit for student enrollment in these programs.

Regardless of the educational delivery system requirements, teen parents in the Cal-Learn Program must participate in a minimum of 10 hours of school activity per week during each week that participation is required. If the teen's school program cannot provide at least 10 hours of activity, the teen parent must provide the school's written confirmation of this limitation to the Cal-Learn case manager (refer to MPP 42-763.713 and .714).

- 6. Q. IS THE CASE MANAGER LIMITED TO ARRANGING ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION WITHIN THE TEEN'S SCHOOL DISTRICT?
 - A. No. The case manager will work with the teen, the head of the AU and the school district in the development of the teen's educational plan and assist in determining the appropriate educational program for the teen. This may be alternative education, adult education or traditional compulsory high school. If there is no program suitable in the teen's school district, the teen's parent or head of the AU can request an inter-district transfer. Such a transfer must be approved by both school districts. If

the transfer is denied, the teen parent's parent or head of the AU has the right to appeal to the County Board of Education.

- 7. Q. HOW WILL A CAL-LEARN MINOR STUDENT WHO IS HEAD OF HER OWN AU, NOT LEGALLY EMANCIPATED AND LIVING WITH A NON-RELATIVE CAREGIVER (BOYFRIEND, ROOMMATE, FRIEND) ESTABLISH RESIDENCY FOR THE PURPOSE OF ATTENDING SCHOOL?
 - A. Senate Bill (SB) 592 (Chapter 98, Statutes of 1994), effective immediately, provides for the establishment of guardianship of a minor for purposes of school enrollment. The bill provides for a "Caregiver's Authorization Affidavit" that will authorize a person 18 years of age or older to enroll a minor in school and consent to school-related medical care and, where the caregiver is a relative, give the person the general power to consent to and authorize medical and dental care.

SB 592 provides a form for this affidavit, signed under penalty of perjury, that is valid for up to one year after the date on which it is executed. The bill also requires the caregiver to notify any school, health care provider, or health care service plan that has been given the affidavit if the minor stops living with the caregiver. The bill provides that a pupil is deemed to comply with residency requirements if he/she lives in the home of a person over the age of 18 located within the boundaries of that school district.

This form must be submitted to the school that the minor is attending and may be obtained from the local district or county office of education and other community resources.

- 8. Q. A CAL-LEARN TEEN IS RECEIVING PAY AND ACADEMIC CREDIT FOR "WORK EXPERIENCE." THIS IS IN A HIGH SCHOOL WHERE THERE IS A "CITIES IN SCHOOLS" PROJECT OR "WORK EXPERIENCE EDUCATION" OR ANY OTHER TYPE OF WORK EXPERIENCE PROGRAM CREDITED BY A SCHOOL. CAN CHILD CARE AND TRANSPORTATION BE PAID BY CAL-LEARN DURING THE HOURS THE TEEN PARENT IS PARTICIPATING IN SUCH A PROGRAM?
 - A. Yes. The Cal-Learn Program will provide child care and transportation for the teen to attend work experience as long as the work experience and hours worked are approved by the school and will be credited toward earning a high school diploma or its equivalent.

- 9. Q. CAN THE CAL-LEARN ORIENTATION BE SCHEDULED AROUND SCHOOL HOURS SO THE TEEN DOES NOT MISS CLASS? CAN ORIENTATION BE PROVIDED IN THE HOME?
 - A. Yes to both questions. We strongly encourage that Cal-Learn orientation and meetings with the case manager not occur during school hours as this would be considered an unexcused absence for the purpose of the Average Daily Attendance, which is the method by which schools obtain funding for a student, and the teen may not be allowed to make up the school work. In addition, if the teen is not able to attend a group orientation as a result of any reason the case manager determines to be reasonable, the teen may receive orientation in the teen's home.
- 10. Q. IF A CAL-LEARN TEEN PARENT IS 18 YEARS OF AGE, DOES NOT HAVE A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA OR ITS EQUIVALENT AND ENROLLS IN A COMMUNITY COLLEGE, WILL THE TEEN STILL BE ELIGIBLE FOR CAL-LEARN SUPPORTIVE SERVICES?
 - A. If the teen parent is attending a college program that will provide the teen with a certificate that is the equivalent to a high school diploma, Cal-Learn will provide the teen parent with supportive services. However, if the teen is attending regular college classes that will not lead to such a certificate, the teen will not be eligible for Cal-Learn supportive services.

A Cal-Learn teen parent must enroll in an educational program that will provide the teen with a high school diploma or its equivalent. A Cal-Learn teen parent must participate in Cal-Learn until the teen parent turns 19 years of age or receives his/her high school diploma or its equivalent.

- 11. Q. IF A CAL-LEARN TEEN PARENT PASSES THE "CALIFORNIA HIGH SCHOOL AND PROFICIENCY EXAM" (CHSP) OR "GENERAL EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT" (GED) TEST AND GET THE \$500 BONUS BUT CHOOSES TO REMAIN OR RETURN TO SCHOOL TO GET A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA, WILL THE TEEN CONTINUE TO GET CAL-LEARN SUPPORTIVE SERVICES UNTIL SHE GRADUATES?
 - A. No. If the teen parent is eligible for AFDC, the teen will be assigned to another GAIN component after passing the CHSPE or GED. The teen will no longer be eligible for Cal-Learn services but will be eligible for GAIN supportive services based on the component the teen is assigned.
- 12. Q. CAN A SCHOOL DISTRICT WITHHOLD A STUDENT'S GRADES, DIPLOMA AND/OR TRANSCRIPT?
 - A. Yes. Any district or private school whose real or personal property has been willfully cut, defaced or

otherwise injured may, after affording the teen due process, withhold the grades, diploma and/or transcripts of the teen responsible for the damage until the teen or the parent or guardian has paid for the damages or completed a program of voluntary work if unable to pay. (Refer to EC Section 48904.)

SUPPORTIVE SERVICES--MPP 42-765

GENERAL--MPP 42-750

- 1. Q. DO TEEN PARENTS WHO ARE PARTICIPATING IN THE "INDEPENDENT STUDY" PROGRAM RECEIVE SUPPORTIVE SERVICES?
 - A. A teen parent may receive child care and transportation to attend an educational activity outside of the home that is a supervised mandatory educational activity specified in the teen's contractual agreement with the school. In addition, the teen can also receive ancillary expenses for specific items the teen needs to complete the teen's studies. The need for child care, transportation and ancillary expenses must be substantiated by the teen parent and authorized by the case manager.
- 2. Q. ARE SUPPORTIVE SERVICES ALLOWED FOR MEETINGS WITH THE CASE MANAGER, ATTENDING ORIENTATION AND OTHER APPOINTMENTS THAT ARE A PART OF THE CASE PLAN?
 - A. Cal-Learn will provide supportive services for the teen parent to attend case management meetings, orientation and school. The statute that implements the Cal-Learn Program stipulates that supportive services shall be limited to those that are necessary to enable the teen parent to attend school regularly. Since the statute also requires the teen parent to receive case management and be informed of the Cal-Learn Program requirements, supportive services are provided for attending case management meetings and the Cal-Learn Program orientation.
- 3. Q CAN A TEEN PARENT RECEIVE SUPPORTIVE SERVICES FOR NON-EDUCATIONAL RELATED ACTIVITIES?
 - A. No. Teen parents cannot receive supportive services for attending extra-curricular school activities such as games and dances as well as doctor appointments, well-baby exams or other non-educational related appointments.

However, if the activity is required so the teen can get a passing grade, supportive services would be provided by Cal-Learn. For example, the teen must play at all of the school's games to get a passing grade in band.

CHILD CARE--MPP 42-750.3

- 1. Q. WILL CAL-LEARN PAY CHILD CARE FOR STUDENTS DURING SCHOOL BREAKS?
 - A. A county can pay for child care when the child is in an approved child care arrangement and the arrangement would be lost without continued payment and the teen parent's school is scheduled to begin within 30 days or less. The teen must provide the case manager with a copy of the child care provider's written policy which required continued payment.
- 2. Q. IF A SCHOOL IS PROVIDING CHILD CARE THROUGH AN EXISTING SYSTEM, CAN THE SCHOOL CHARGE CAL-LEARN FOR CAL-LEARN TEEN PARENTS BEING SERVED? IF SO, WHAT IS THE AMOUNT OR RATE?
 - A. No. Child care payments under the Cal-Learn Program must not supplant other funding sources. Therefore, if a school is currently providing subsidized child care to a Cal-Learn teen parent in an existing program, the school cannot remove the Cal-Learn teen parent from that program in order to charge Cal-Learn.

If under the school's existing system there are no subsidized child care slots available, Cal-Learn can pay for additional child care slots made available for Cal-Learn teen parents. The Cal-Learn reimbursement rate would be at the same rate charged to or received from other funding sources for child care received by the school. When the child care provider is receiving subsidies, does not currently charge parents for providing child care and has not established a per-child rate, a per-child rate must be established based on the actual costs incurred for the subsidized child care. Cal-Learn can pay the same rate for the same service up to the applicable rate ceiling.

In the Cal-Learn Program, the maximum rate ceiling is the same as in GAIN at 1.5 standard deviations above the mean market rate as established by the Regional Market Rate (RMR) survey of California child care providers. These RMR ceilings are established for each county and are differentiated by the age of the child, the type of care, and the hours of the care.

- 3. Q. IS CHILD CARE AVAILABLE FOR HOURS WHEN THE CAL-LEARN TEEN PARENT ATTENDS STUDY HALL OR LIBRARY TIME?
 - A. When the activity is a mandatory component of the school program and is supervised by authorized personnel, child

care will be paid by the Cal-Learn Program. However, attendance must be substantiated by the teen parent and be verifiable by the school.

- 4. Q. ARE THERE ANY FUNDS AVAILABLE WITH THIS PROGRAM TO PROVIDE FOR START-UP COSTS OF A CHILD CARE CENTER (E.G., SITE IMPROVEMENT, RENT OR PURCHASE OF PORTABLE BUILDINGS, RENOVATION, EQUIPMENT, STAFFING)?
 - A. Cal-Learn child care funds can only be used to pay for the actual costs of providing child care services and cannot be used to pay for any resource development such as the examples noted above. However, counties may use other sources of funds that have been made available to develop or improve a child care center.

All counties will be receiving some advance start-up funds. These start-up funds are limited as how they may be used. Counties will need to refer to All-County Letter 94-61 to obtain additional information regarding start-up funds. In addition, we are completing a survey in response to concerns regarding costs directly associated to start-up/phase-in of the Cal-Learn Program. We are committed to a thorough review of this issue.

5. Q. CAN CHILD CARE BE ON-SITE AT THE SCHOOL?

- A. Yes. A school can offer on-site child care to the Cal-Learn teen parent but cannot make its use mandatory. The choice of child care is the teen parent's right as specified under MPP 42-750.3 and the teen does not have to use the child care provided on-site at the school.
- 6. Q. WHEN THERE IS AN OVERPAYMENT IN CAL-LEARN CHILD CARE, WILL THE OVERPAYMENT BE COLLECTED FROM THE PROVIDER OR THE TEEN PARENT?
 - A. When there is an overpayment in child care, the overpayment will be collected from the teen parent's future child care payments or AFDC grant. The overpayment cannot be collected from a child care provider except when the provider is under contract with the Cal-Learn Program and it is determined that the provider was at fault for the overpayment.

If a county or case manager determines there has been an overpayment, the teen parent will be informed of the overpayment. The case manager will assist the teen in determining if the collection of the overpayment may disrupt the teen parent's child care arrangements or prevent the teen parent from attending school. If it is determined the collection of the overpayment would not be disruptive, the overpayment will be collected by the

county from the teen's future child care payments in accordance with MPP 42-751.44. When it is determined that the collection of the overpayment will disrupt the child care arrangements and prevent the teen from attending school, the collection of the overpayment may be deferred to be collected later, i.e. when the teen is out of school. (Refer to MPP 42-751.3.)

- 7. Q. WHAT CHILD CARE LICENSING AND EXEMPT PROVIDER CATEGORIES WILL APPLY? WILL THE TEEN PARENT'S CHOICE OF CHILD CARE PROVIDERS BE LIMITED FOR THE CAL-LEARN POPULATION?
 - A. The licensing and exemption criteria that applies to the Cal-Learn Program is the same that applies to the GAIN Program. MPP 42-750.3 states that the "choice between licensed or exempt child care arrangements are made by the participant." In the Cal-Learn Program, the "participant" is the teen parent. The case manager may assist the teen parent in choosing the appropriate child care arrangements. However, the choice of child care is ultimately the teen parent's responsibility.
- 8. Q. WILL IT BE NECESSARY TO DOCUMENT THE UNAVAILABILITY OF ANOTHER ADULT IN THE FAMILY OR AU WHO COULD CARE FOR THE CHILD?
 - A. The only adult responsible for caring for a teen parent's child is the teen parent and the father of the teen parent's child. If the father of the baby is in the same AU as the teen parent and the child, it would need to be documented that the other parent was unavailable to care for the child. If the teen parent is solely responsible for the child, no documentation would need to be made. Another family member is not responsible for caring for the teen parent's child even if the teen parent is in the same AU.
- 9. Q. WHAT IS CURRENT POLICY ON DAY CARE LICENSING REQUIREMENTS FOR CHILD CARE FACILITIES ON-SITE AT THE SCHOOL?
 - A. As long as the child care facility is directly operated by school employees and serves only the children of parents attending the school, whether it is on or off school property, the facility is exempt from licensure. However, if the child care facility is not operated by the school, the facility must meet licensing requirements in order for a child care payment to be available from the Cal-Learn Program.

10. Q. WHAT IS THE CAL-LEARN CHILD CARE PAYMENT POLICY?

- A. The payment policy for Cal-Learn child care consists of the following general requirements:
 - (1) Child care payments can be issued in advance or retroactively to either the teen parent or the child care provider as specified under MPP 42-750.34.
 - (2) In accordance with MPP 42-750.333, child care payments are limited to 1.5 standard deviations above the mean RMR ceilings established for each county and differentiated by the age of the child, the type of child care provider and whether the care is provided on a part-time or full-time basis.

Child care payments are only available for children who meet both of the following conditions in accordance with MPP 42-750.2. The child is:

- (a) A member of the AU or is receiving Supplemental Security Income or Foster Care; and
- (b) Under the age of 13; or physically or mentally incapable of caring for him/herself based on a written statement from a physician or a licensed or certified psychologist; or under court supervision.
- (3) Child care payments are only available to a child care provider who meets all of the following conditions as specified under with MPP 42-750.3. The provider:
 - (a) Is 18 years old or older;
 - (b) Is not a parent or legal guardian of the child;
 - (c) Is not a member of the AU; and
 - (d) Has a day care license or is legally exempt from licensing.
- (4) As specified under MPP 42-750, child care payments are only available for the hours the teen attends his/her Cal-Learn orientation, any meetings or appointments with the case manager, and school related activities plus any reasonable transportation time.

TRANSPORTATION--MPP 42-750.4

- 1. Q. CAN CAL-LEARN PAY FOR ALTERNATIVE FORMS OF TRANSPORTATION? FOR EXAMPLE, THE HEAD OF THE AU DRIVES THE TEEN PARENT TO SCHOOL OR THE TEEN PARENT CARPOOLS WITH OTHER STUDENTS.
 - A. Yes. If public transportation is not available as specified in MPP 42-750.4 or the payment of mileage is the least costly form of transportation, mileage may be paid for the teen parent to attend school. If the teen parent is in a carpool, the county will pay whatever rate the other people in the carpool are paying as long as it is the least costly form of transportation. The person operating the carpool cannot charge a Cal-Learn teen parent a rate different from what others in the carpool are being charged.
- 2. Q. IF CAL-LEARN PROVIDES A TRANSPORTATION PAYMENT TO A TEEN PARENT TO PAY THE HEAD OF THE AU FOR DRIVING THE TEEN TO AND FROM SCHOOL, WOULD THE PAYMENT BE COUNTED AS INCOME IN THE AU'S GRANT COMPUTATION?
 - A. No. The transportation payment will not be counted as income in the computation of the AU's grant just as it is not counted as income for those individuals participating in the GAIN Program.
- 3. Q. WOULD CAL-LEARN PAY FOR TAXI SERVICES?
 - A. The Cal-Learn Program may pay for a taxi service but only in an emergency situation. For example, if a teen parent's car breaks down and there is no other means of transportation for the teen parent to get home from school, a county may pay for a taxi ride home. Such a payment would be an ancillary expense as "other necessary costs" as specified under MPP 42-750.5.

ANCILLARY--MPP 42-750.5

- 1. Q. WILL CAL-LEARN PAY FOR A TEEN PARENT'S GRADUATION GOWN OR CLOTHES AND SHOES SO THE TEEN CAN ATTEND SCHOOL?
 - A. Cal-Learn could pay for the rental or purchase of a cap and gown for a teen parent to graduate from high school or its equivalent. Cal-Learn will also pay for gym clothes, lab fees, costs to take the GED test, books and any other necessary school expense. The AFDC grant for the teen parent provides funds for the purchase of everyday clothes and shoes.

- 2. Q. IF A TEEN PARENT HAS A JOB UPON GRADUATION, WILL THE CAL-LEARN PROGRAM PAY FOR CLOTHES OR UNIFORMS FOR THE TEEN TO GO TO WORK? DOES THE TEEN HAVE TO GO FIRST TO GAIN?
 - A. No. When a teen parent graduates from high school or its equivalent, the teen parent will move into another GAIN component as long as the teen continues to be eligible for AFDC. If it is determined by the GAIN case manager that the teen needs tools, a uniform or clothes to obtain employment, GAIN will pay for such items as an ancillary expense as specified under MPP 42-750.5.